

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-6, 8, and 16-33 are all the claims pending in the application, claims 2, 7, and 9-15 having been canceled by the present amendment, and claims 16-33 having been newly added. Claims 1, 5, 8, 24, and 30 are the only independent claims.

Support for the new claims can be found at, for example, para. [0058] of the published application, and figures 6A-7C. No new matter has been added, and therefore entry of the new claims is believed permitted and is respectfully requested.

Applicant notes with appreciation that the certified copies of the priority documents have been received and that the originally filed drawings have been accepted.

Claims 1-4 and 7 are objected to because of informalities set forth on page 2 of the Office Action. The foregoing amendment to claim 1 corrects the noted deficiency of claims 1-4. Claim 7 has been canceled rendering this objection moot. Accordingly, Applicant requests the withdrawal of the objection of the identified claims.

Claims 1, 2, and 5-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Shimamura et al. (U.S. patent 6,808,773). Claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimamura. Claims 3, 4, and 13-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimamura in view of Saito et al. (U.S. patent 6,469,440). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections, and requests reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in view of the following arguments.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)
as being anticipated by Shimamura

The Examiner rejects claims 1, 2, and 5-11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Shimamura. Applicant recognizes that newly added claims 16-33 have not been formally rejected since they have been added by the present amendment. However, since these claims include features similar to those recited in the rejected claims, Applicant will comment on the patentability of these claims in conjunction with the comments provided on the rejected claims.

Claim 1 recites “a frame adhesive having a transparent adhesive formed at an active display area of the plasma display panel and a black adhesive formed at a nonactive display area surrounding the active display area.” Although Shimamura purportedly provides transparent adhesive arranged over various portions of the components defining a plasma display panel, the patent provides absolutely no disclosure relating to the use of a “black adhesive” in accordance with claim 1.

First of all, Applicant invites the Examiner’s attention to Fig. 5 of Shimamura. “As shown in FIG. 5, ... black frame layer 22 is formed on one surface of the glass substrate 10, i.e., the surface on the PDP side, and the copper layer pattern 16a is formed on the black frame layer 22 and the glass substrate 10 via a first adhesive layer 12c and the resin layer 14.” (Shimamura col. 11, lines 53-58).

Applicant assumes *arguendo* that first adhesive layer 12c discloses the “transparent adhesive” of claim 1. Even if this were true, Shimamura at best discloses the use of a single type of adhesive (“transparent adhesive”) that is formed over both the active display area and the nonactive display area of the plasma display panel. Shimamura makes no mention of the use of different types of adhesives formed over the active display area and the nonactive display area.

More importantly, Shimamura does not describe a “black adhesive formed at a nonactive display area” as called for in claim 1.

Applicant submits that none of the other references of record supply the stated deficiencies of Shimamura. In view of the foregoing, Shimamura fails to teach or suggest the identified features of claim 1, and therefore this claim is believed to be patentable.

Independent claims 5, 8, 24, and 30 are patentably distinct for similar reasons. For example, Shimamura does not teach or suggest “one of the plurality of adhesives is a frame adhesive having a black adhesive for defining an active display area of the plasma display panel,” as recited by claim 5. Moreover, Shimamura does not teach or suggest “forming a black adhesive at a nonactive display area of the plasma display panel” as recited in each of claims 8, 24, and 30. For these reasons, independent claims 5, 8, 24, and 30 are also believed to be patentable, and dependent claims 6, 16-23, 25-29, and 31-33 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependence on the patentable independent claims. The rejections to claims 2, 7, and 9-11 are rendered moot since these claims have been canceled.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)
as being unpatentable over Shimamura and Saito

The Examiner rejects claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimamura, and claims 3, 4, and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimamura in view of Saito.

Applicant has demonstrated above that Shimamura does not teach or suggest the “black adhesive” feature recited by claim 1. Applicant further notes that none of the cited references supply any of the stated deficiencies of Shimamura. Therefore, dependent claims 3 and 4 are

believed to be patentable at least by virtue of their dependence on patentable claim 1. The rejection to claims 13-15 is rendered moot since these claims have been canceled.

Lastly, Applicant acknowledges the other references made of record and not relied upon. However, there is nothing of sufficient relevance to require detailed discussion.

CONCLUSION


In light of the above remarks, Applicant submits that the present Amendment places all claims of the present application in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California, telephone number (213) 623-2221 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee, Hong, Degerman, Kang & Schmadeka

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By: 
Jeffrey J. Lotspeich
Registration No. 45,737
Attorney for Applicant

Customer No. 035884

Lee, Hong, Degerman, Kang & Schmadeka
801 S. Figueroa Street, 14th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90017
Telephone: 213-623-2221
Facsimile: 213-623-2211